

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

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|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>6266.P001PCT | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>  | see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report<br>(Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below |
| International application No.<br>PCT/US03/36136       | International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> )<br>14 November 2003 (14.11.2003) | (Earliest) Priority Date ( <i>day/month/year</i> )<br>15 November 2002 (15.11.2002)   |
| Applicant<br>ERICK VON SCHWEBER                       |  |   |

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 4 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

## 1. Basis of the Report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
  - the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
  - contained in the international application in written form.
  - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
  - furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
  - furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
  - the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
  - the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

2.  Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3.  Unity of invention is lacking (See Box II).

4. With regard to the title,
 

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,
 

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 19
 

- as suggested by the applicant.
- because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- because this figure better characterizes the invention.

None of the figures

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/36136

**Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of Item 5 of the first sheet)**

The technical features mentioned in the abstract do not include a reference sign between parentheses (PCT Rule 8.1(d)).

**NEW ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus are presented with which to conduct information surveys. Contemporary methods of accessing and exploiting information resources, including search techniques and category browsing, have become less effective and efficient at these tasks due to the growing infoglut and the widening knowledge gap between the content, structure, and navigational paths of information resources on the one hand, and what users know and desire of these on the other. The information survey method and apparatus disclosed herein enables a user to survey information in order to rapidly discover the area of the information resource that is most useful to them, the survey niche, and evaluate the knowledge and information found there. (Figure 19)

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/36136

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) G06F 17/60  
US CL 705/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 705/10

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
Please See Continuation Sheet

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages              | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| Y          | US 5,452,468 (PETERSON et al) 19 September 1995 (19.09.1995), columns 7-10; Figure 9            | 1-52                  |
| ---        |   | -----                 |
| Y          | US 5,754,938 (HERZ et al) 19 May 1998 (19.05.1998), columns 4-5, 9, 17, 29-31; Figures 5 and 10 | 1-52                  |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

|   |     |  |
|---|-----|--|
| • Special categories of cited documents:  | "T" | later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention  |
| "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance  | "X" | document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone   |
| "E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date   | "Y" | document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art |
| "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) | "&" | document member of the same patent family  |
| "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  |     |  |
| "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed  |     |  |

Date of the actual completion of the international search

17 August 2004 (17.08.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

28 DEC 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

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**Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:**

EAST

(information adj (retriev\$3 or survey\$3)) and ((taxonom\$5 or categor\$5 or organiz\$5) adj (information or data)) and database and  
predicat\$3 and partition\$3 and lattice and (user same (preference or profile))